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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,973	03/31/2004	Katsuhiro Kido	3022-0024	1807
70432	7590	07/03/2007		
ALFRED A. STADNICKI 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET SUITE 1800 ARLINGTON, VA 22209			EXAMINER LEUNG, JENNIFER	
			ART UNIT 3714	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 07/03/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/812,973

Applicant(s)

KIDO, KATSUHIRO

Examiner

Jennifer Leung

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 April 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 3-7, 11-15 and 17-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 3-7, 11-15 and 17-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 April 2007 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Office Action is in response to the Amendment filed 4/19/2007. Claims 3-7 and 11-15 are amended, claims 1, 2, 8-10, and 16 are cancelled, and claims 17-30 are added.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 3-7, 11-15, and 17-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Cannon (US 2002/0177483).**

Re claim 17. Cannon discloses a gaming system comprising: a first gaming machine having a first controller configured with logic to independently control a first game played by a first player at the first gaming machine (para. 0026); and a second gaming machine communicatively connected with the first gaming machine (para. 0026) and having a second controller configured with logic to (i) control a second game played by a plurality of players at a plurality of gaming machines, including the first player at the first gaming machine and a second player at the second gaming machine (paras. 0026-27), (ii) transmit image data of the second game to the first gaming machine (para. 0062), (iii) control a period of time for accepting bets on the second game (para. 0022, 0023, 0062), and (iv) transmit bet period data to the first gaming machine (para. 0062);

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wherein the first controller is further configured with logic to (i) control display of images of the second game in accordance with the transmitted image data from the second gaming machine (para. 0062), (ii) control display of an indication of a start of the period of time for accepting the bets on the second game in accordance with the transmitted bet period data (para. 0062), and (iii) transmit first bet data indicative of a first bet on the second game having been placed at the first gaming machine to the second gaming machine (para. 0023); wherein the second controller is further configured with logic to determine a payout for the second game in accordance with the transmitted first bet data and second bet data indicative of a second bet on the second game having been placed at the second gaming machine within the period of time, if the second controller receives the transmitted first bet data within the period of time from the first gaming machine (paras. 0022, 0023, 0067, 0070, 0078).

Re claims 3 and 23. Cannon discloses wherein the second controller is further configured with logic to transmit an instruction for a payout to the first player based on a result of the second game (para. 0027 and 0070), and the first controller is further configured with logic to control the payout to the first player in accordance with the transmitted instruction (Fig. 4).

Re claim 4. Cannon discloses wherein the first game is played only by the first player (para. 0023).

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Re claim 5. Cannon discloses wherein the first gaming machine comprises a first display means device for variably displaying a plurality of symbols for the first game (para. 0026).

Re claim 6. Cannon discloses wherein the first game is a video poker game (para. 0018).

Re claim 7. Cannon wherein the first and the second gaming machines are connected through via the Internet (abstract and para. 0021).

Re claim 18. Cannon discloses a first gaming machine communicatively connected with a second gaming machine having a second controller configured with logic to control a second game played by a plurality of players at a plurality of gaming machines, including a first player at the first gaming machine and a second player at the second game machine (paras. 0026-27), the first gaming machine comprising: a first controller configured with logic to (i) independently control a first game played by the first player (para. 0026), (ii) receive image data associated with play of the second game from the second gaming machine (para. 0062), (iii) direct display of images of the second game in accordance with the received image data (para. 0062), (iv) receive, from the second gaming machine, bet time information indicative of initiation of acceptance of bets on the second game (para. 0022, 0023, 0062), and (v) direct display of a bet time for the second game in accordance with the received bet time information (para. 0062); and a

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second game display device for displaying the images of, and a bet time for, the second game, in accordance with the first controller directives (para. 0062).

Re claims 11-15. See rejections of claims 3-7 for features of claims 11-15.

Re claim 19. Cannon discloses further comprising: a common display device for commonly displaying the images of the second game to the plurality of second game players (202, Fig. 2); wherein the second controller is further configured with logic to control the transmission of the images of the second game displayed by the common display device to the first gaming machine (para. 0062; 0027 and 0070).

Re claim 20. Cannon discloses further comprising: an image capturing device for capturing the image data of the second game; wherein the image data of the transmitted second game is the captured image data (202, Fig. 2; para. 0062: in order to display image data that originates from another device, the data must be transmitted and then received, ie captured).

Re claim 21. Cannon discloses wherein the first gaming machine includes a second game display device for displaying images associated with the second game (para. 0062).

Re claims 22 and 25. Cannon discloses wherein the second game display device includes a BET detector for detecting the placing of the first bet on the second game at the first gaming machine (para. 0023).

Re claim 24. Cannon discloses further comprising: an effects display device for displaying images of the first game (para. 0026).

Re claim 26. Cannon discloses a second gaming machine communicatively connected with a first gaming machine (para. 0026-27) having a first controller configured with logic to independently control play of a first game by a first player (para. 0026), and comprising: a second controller configured with logic to (i) control a second game played by a plurality of players at a plurality of gaming machines, including the first player at the first gaming machine and a second player at the second gaming machine (paras. 0026-27), (ii) transmit image data of the second game to the first gaming machine (para. 0062), (iii) control a period of time for accepting a bet on the second game (para. 0022, 0023, 0062), (iv) transmit an indication of a start of the controlled time period to the first gaming machine (para. 0062), (v) receive first bet data indicative of a first bet on the second game having been placed at the first gaming machine (para. 0023), and (vi) determine a payout for the second game in accordance with the received first bet data and second bet data, if the first bet data has been received within the controlled time period (paras. 0022, 0023, 0067, 0070, 0078).

Re claim 27. Cannon discloses a first gaming machine communicatively connected with a second gaming machine (paras. 0026-27) having a second controller configured with logic to control a second game played by a plurality of players at a plurality of gaming machines, including a first player at the first gaming machine (paras. 0026-27), and comprising: a display device for displaying the second game (202, Fig.2); and a first controller configured with logic to (i) independently control play of a first game by the first player (para. 0026), (ii) receive image data for the second game from the second gaming machine (para. 0062, 0027, 0070), and (iii) control the displaying of the second game by the display device in accordance with the received image data (para. 0062, 0027, 0070).

Re claim 28. Cannon discloses a gaming machine communicatively connected with another gaming machine (paras. 0026-27) having a first controller configured with logic to independently control play of a first game by a first player (para. 0026), and comprising: a second controller configured with logic to (i) control a second game played by a plurality of players at a plurality of gaming machines, including the first player at the first gaming machine (paras. 0026-27), and (ii) direct transmission of image data of the controlled second game to the first gaming machine (para. 0062, 0027, 0070).

Re claim 29. Cannon discloses a gaming system comprising: a first gaming machine having a first controller configured with logic to independently control play of a first

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game at the first gaming machine by a first player (para. 0026); a second gaming machine communicatively connected with the first gaming machine (para. 0026-27), and having a second controller configured with logic to (i) control a second game played by a plurality of players at a plurality of gaming machines, including the first player at the first gaming machine (para. 0026-27), (ii) transmit image data of the second game to the first gaming machine (para. 0062, 0027, 0070); and a display device associated with the first gaming machine for displaying the second game (para. 0062); wherein the first controller is further configured with logic to control the displaying of the second game on the display device in accordance with the transmitted image data (para. 0062, 0027, 0070).

Re claim 30. Cannon discloses a gaming system, comprising: a first gaming machine configured with logic to control play of a first type game by the first player on the first gaming machine (para. 0026); and a second gaming machine configured with logic to simultaneously control play of a second type game (para. 0023), different than the first type game, by the first player on the first gaming machine and by a second player on the second gaming machine (paras. 0026-27).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments, see page 10 of the Remarks, filed 4/19/2007, with respect to the drawing and specification have been fully considered and are persuasive. The objections of have been withdrawn.

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 3-7, 11-15, and 17-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Johnson discloses a gaming device video display system.

6. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jennifer Leung whose telephone number is 571-270-1342. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon -Thur, every other Fri.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert E. Pezzuto can be reached on 571-272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Jennifer Leung
June 26, 2007


Robert E. Pezzuto
Supervisory Patent Examiner
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